

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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11. (New) A conveying roller for a web or a sheet in a machine, which comprises a first cylindrical tubular body having a plurality of radial holes arranged in substantially longitudinal rows, a second fixed tubular body arranged coaxially within said first cylindrical tubular body, said first cylindrical tubular body capable of rotation relative to said second fixed tubular body, and slidable sealing elements positioned between said first cylindrical tubular body and second fixed tubular body defining at least one suction chamber for communicating with a suction generating system, said chamber being suitable for being brought selectively in communication with at least one row of said radial holes during the relative rotation of said bodies.

12. (New) The conveying roller according to Claim 11, wherein said first cylindrical tubular body comprises an inner surface and said slidable sealing elements engage resiliently with said inner surface.

13. (New) The conveying roller according to Claim 11, wherein said second fixed tubular body is cylindrically shaped, said slidable sealing elements extending radially between said first and second bodies to define said at least one suction chamber, said second fixed tubular body having at least one opening to said at least one suction chamber enabling said suction generating system to communicate with said suction chamber.

14. (New) The conveying roller according to Claim 13, comprising a plurality openings in said second cylindrically shaped tubular body arranged substantially longitudinally within said at least one suction chamber.

15. (New) The conveying roller according to Claim 13, wherein said first cylindrical tubular body comprises an inner surface and said slidable sealing elements engage resiliently with said inner surface.

16. (New) The conveying roller according to Claim 15, wherein said slidable sealing elements comprise a fixed portion as means for forming a longitudinal guide within which a bar can slide and resiliently engage with said inner surface of said first cylindrical tubular body to form said slidable sealing element.

17. (New) A paper converting machine comprising the conveying roller according to Claim 11.

18. (New) The paper converting machine according to Claim 17, which is a member selected from the group consisting of rewinding, winding and interfolding machines.

19. (New) A paper converting machine comprising the conveying roller according to Claim 12.

20. (New) The paper converting machine according to Claim 19, which is a member selected from the group consisting of rewinding, winding and interfolding machines.

21. (New) A paper converting machine comprising the conveying roller according to Claim 13.

22. (New) The paper converting machine according to Claim 21, which is a member selected from the group consisting of rewinding, winding and interfolding machines.

23. (New) A paper converting machine comprising the conveying roller according to Claim 14.

24. (New) The paper converting machine according to Claim 23, which is a member selected from the group consisting of rewinding, winding and interfolding machines.

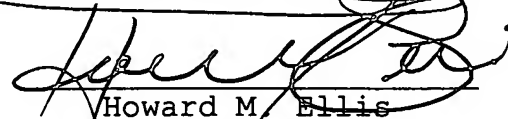
25. (New) A method for moving a sheet or a web of paper along a paper converting machine by means of a conveying roller, said method comprising the step of feeding a web or a sheet of paper into said machine, said roller comprising a first cylindrical tubular body having a plurality of radial holes arranged in substantially longitudinal rows, a second fixed tubular body arranged coaxially within said first cylindrical tubular body, said first cylindrical tubular body capable of rotation relative to said second fixed tubular body, and slidable sealing elements positioned between said first cylindrical body and second fixed tubular body defining at least one suction chamber, said chamber being suitable for being brought selectively in communication with at least one row of said radial holes during the relative rotation of said bodies.

26. (New) The method according to Claim 25, wherein said first cylindrical tubular body of said conveying roller

comprises an inner surface and said slidable sealing elements engage resiliently with said inner surface.

27. (New) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said second fixed tubular body of said conveying roller is cylindrically shaped, said slidable sealing elements extending radially between said first and second bodies to define said at least one suction chamber, said second tubular body having at least one opening to said at least one suction chamber enabling a suction generating system to communicate with said suction chamber.

Respectfully submitted,



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